

Message Text

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SUBJ: EXAMPLES OF GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP

REF: STATE 51579

1. 20 AMERICAN FIRMS HAVE OFFICES IN POLAND, ALL IN WARSAW. MOST OF THEM ARE QUITE ACTIVE COMMERCIALY, BUT THEY GENERALLY KEEP A LOW PROFILE AND GIVE LITTLE PUBLICITY TO THEIR OPERATIONS. FURTHERMORE, UNLIKE IN THE WEST, THESE COMPANIES HAVE RELATIVELY FEW OPPORTUNITIES TO BECOME INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, NOR IS THEIR PARTICIPATION SOLICITED.
2. GENERALLY SPEAKING, WE KNOW OF NO ADVERSE PUBLICITY, PAST OR PRESENT, REGARDING THE OPERATIONS OF AN AMERICAN FIRM IN POLAND. FROM A PURELY BUSINESS STANDPOINT, US COMPANIES HAVE A GOOD REPUTATION.
3. IN THE RECENT PAST, WE KNOW OF TWO CASES IN WHICH AMERICAN FIRMS HAVE MADE DONATIONS OF BENEFIT TO POLISH INSTITUTIONS. NEITHER RECEIVED EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY. THE FIRST IS THE NEW WARSAW CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, WHICH IS NOW PARTIALLY COMPLETED. THIS HOSPITAL, THE NEWEST, LARGEST, AND MOST MODERN OF ITS KIND IN WARSAW, IS BEING FINISHED AS A MEMORIAL TO POLISH CHILDREN WHO DIED DURING WORLD WAR II. IT HAS RECEIVED MUCH ATTENTION FROM THE POLISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS ENCOURAGED DONATIONS OF EQUIPMENT

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FROM FOREIGN INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES. AMERICAN FIRMS HAVE BEEN AMONG THE PRINCIPAL GIVERS. THOSE WE KNOW OF ARE GENERAL ELECTRIC, SQUIBB, OTIS ELEVATOR, INTELECTRON-AMERICAN MEDICAL SYSTEMS, MANTRA, AND BECKMAN INSTRUMENTS. NOT ALL OF THESE FIRMS, HOWEVER, HAVE OFFICES IN POLAND.

4. THE SECOND CASE OCCURRED LAST FALL WHEN SEVEN AMERICAN FIRMS

(ALL WITH OFFICES IN WARSAW) DONATED MONEY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A POWER LAWNMOWER FOR THE LASKI INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND. THE INSTITUTE IS A LARGE, IMPRESSIVE FACILITY LOCATED NORTH OF WARSAW WHICH PROVIDES EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR BLIND CHILDREN, INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE BLIND AND MENTALLY RETARDED. THESE 7 FIRMS WERE SINGER, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, CORNING GLASS, HEWLETT-PACKARD, INGERSOLL-RAND, J.I. CASE AND THE TRANSAMERICA CORP. SCHAUFELLE

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